Smuggling of goods on the borders

180. SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:
SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the large scale smuggling of goods along the borders;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the value of goods smuggled and seized during each of the last three years till date;

(c) the number of persons arrested in such cases during the said period and the details of action taken against them; and

(d) the effective steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to stop smuggling from across the border?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) The Government is aware of smuggling of goods, however figures do not indicate large scale smuggling along the borders.

(b) and (c) All-India details of cases of seizure of smuggled goods including the number of persons arrested and action taken against them during the last three years, is as under:—

Year	No. of Cases	Value of Goods (Rs. in Crores)	No. of Persons Arrested	Action Taken Against the Arrested Persons
2003-04	47575	627.17	560	Necessary action
2004-05	43188	1176.43	452	under the Act
2005-06	39501	491.30.	461	including launching
2006-07 (Upto Jan. 2007)	36638	507.53	353	of prosecution has been initiated

(d) All Customs field formations including Directorate of Revenue Intelligence are alert and vigilant to detect and thwart smuggling of goods along the borders.